

House Judiciary Committee
February 17th 2009
HB 370

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, for the record my name is William Duffield I am here today representing my trucking Company Duffield Express Inc.

I would like to go on record today as an opponent of HB 370.

I have been in the trucking business for over 25 years and have over 1.5 million safe driving miles and have never been issued a citation for a safety violation or speeding. My trucks run all 48 states and three provinces in Canada. The reasons for my opposition are this;

1. This bill only applies to Commercial for hire vehicles, it exempts farm vehicles. It assumes that farm vehicles never break the law.
2. Motor Carriers are the most regulated safest vehicles on the road. They must stop at all weigh stations and produce proof of insurance, registration, IFTA and a log book as well as drivers license proof of a current medical certificate and a bill of lading for the load they carry. They do not drive down the road without these required documents.
3. It appears this bill is strictly to allow DOT to stop trucks for speeding. I would submit to the committee that 99% of all trucking company's have set the speed limits on their trucks down and limit them to less than 65 miles per hour. This is done electronically by hooking the engine to a computer and setting the maximum speed the truck can travel.
4. I am also concerned that next session they will be back saying they need guns. These folks do not have the same training as Sheriff and Highway Patrol officers. DOT Officers need to concentrate on safety inspections not doing the Highway Patrols job.

This bill targets one industry and tries to fix a problem that does not exist.
Please vote no on HB 370

William Duffield, President
Duffield Express Inc.
Forsyth, MT. 59327